



# Environmental Tidbits

Environmental Tidbits is brought to you courtesy of the Michigan Business Pollution Prevention Partnership (MBP3). If you would like to be added to the email distribution list, contact Jeff Spencer at [spencerj3@michigan.gov](mailto:spencerj3@michigan.gov).

## Announcements

**Attention MBP3 Members** – annual reporting forms are still available for 2007

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ess-p2-mbp3-performancemeasurements\\_189893\\_7.doc](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ess-p2-mbp3-performancemeasurements_189893_7.doc)

**MBP3 Partner Ms. Rose Voss @ Consumers Energy J.R. Whiting Plant invites you to the ANNUAL LOTUS TOUR - SATURDAY, JULY 26, starting at 9 am**

We will be leaving St. Mary's Parking Lot, Monroe, Michigan (Elm & Monroe St. by St. Mary's Church & Custer Statue) to Consumers Energy J.R. Whiting Plant for a driving tour (and photos); next stop at DTE Energy on Dunbar Rd. to see Plum Creek Bay Lotus; Proceed to DTE Energy on Front St. in Monroe for program & lunch  
FREE LUNCH & Free lotus tote bags including logos of all sponsors will be given to adult participants

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED by JULY 15** at <http://www.monroeinfo.com/> with NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE # of each person attending, including children

## MBP3 Partners

**1. We have three drums of methanol I would like to see go to good use.**

**Contact:** Judy N. Visscher, Environmental Regulatory Specialist  
Holland Board of Public Works  
ph# 616-355-1210  
[jvisscher@hollandbpw.com](mailto:jvisscher@hollandbpw.com)

**2. We are in need of 2-4 very used roll-offs (20-30 cu. yds.) for cardboard collection.**

**Contact:** Bob Pinder, Recycling for Newaygo County  
231.924.5822

If you have information or comments regarding "Informational Requests", please send them to Jeff Spencer, MBP3 Coordinator, at [spencerj3@michigan.gov](mailto:spencerj3@michigan.gov) (unless otherwise indicated).

July 10, 2008





# Environmental Tidbits

## Environmental Awareness

*Want to save as much as 33% on your energy bill?* Here are 6 simple things you can do today:

1. Turn off lights you're not using. A good rule of thumb is that there should be a maximum of one light on in your household per person at any given time. Installing motion sensors (about \$20 each) can make this even easier to accomplish. Estimated Energy Savings = 2%
2. Clean the coils on your fridge every six months. Wiping off the grime that accumulates on these coils will enable your fridge to function much more efficiently. Estimated Energy Savings = 4%
3. Air-dry your dishes. Skip the energy-intensive drying cycle on your dishwasher and choose the "air-dry" option, or just open the dishwasher door after the rinse cycle, instead. Estimated Energy Savings = 5%
4. Eliminate "phantom load." Many electronics use electricity even when they're turned off. For example, a quarter of the energy used by your TV each year is consumed when the TV is off! Unplug your electronic devices and appliances when they're not in use. A *Smart Power Strip* ([www.gaiam.com](http://www.gaiam.com)), or even a regular power strip, can make this easy to accomplish. Estimated Energy Savings = 5%
5. Wash clothes in cold water. With modern washing machines and detergents, washing your clothes in cold water gets them just as clean as washing in hot water, but it uses half the energy. Estimated Energy Savings = 7%
6. Air-dry clothes. It takes a lot of energy to run a dryer. Hang your clothes on a rack or clothesline, and let the air dry your clothes for free. Estimated Energy Savings = 10%

### **Save Money Website**

<http://www.michigan.gov/som/0,1607,7-192-50778---,00.html>

### **Sierra Club Citizen's Guide to Protecting The Great Lakes**

<http://www.sierraclub.org/greatlakes/downloads/2008-06-activisttoolkit.pdf>

### **New Underground Storage Tank Rules Effective**

<http://www.state.mi.us/orr/emi/arcrules.asp?type=dept&id=EQ&subId=2007%2D032+EQ&subCat=History>

### **First pre-listing of high-hazard substances from REACH**

[http://echa.europa.eu/consultations/authorisation/svhc/svhc\\_cons\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/consultations/authorisation/svhc/svhc_cons_en.asp)

### **California Green Buying Guide**

<http://www.green.ca.gov/EPP/Introduction/default.htm>

### **Sustainable Farmer**

<http://www.sustainablefarmer.com>

July 10, 2008





# Environmental Tidbits

## **Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Habitat/Wetlands Initiative: Report and Call to Action**

<http://glrc.us/initiatives/wetlands/index.html>

## **Energy & Climate Change**

### **Watkins Glen International racetrack to go wind-powered**

[http://www.theglen.com/news/track\\_news/548053.html](http://www.theglen.com/news/track_news/548053.html)

Michigan Senate passed SB 213 which establishes a portfolio standard that includes renewable energy, cleaner energy (including integrated gasification combined cycle, IGCC), and energy optimization (energy efficiency, load management, and conservation). Previously, the Michigan House had passed HB 5548 and 5549 related to a renewable portfolio standard and HB 5525 related to energy efficiency. A conference committee will try to reconcile the many differences between the bills.

### **Global Climate Change: NASA's Eyes on the Earth**

<http://climate.jpl.nasa.gov/>

### **New Initiative Launched to Drive Energy Efficiency**

<http://sev.prnewswire.com/oil-energy/20080623/DC2584823062008-1.html>

### **Khardomah Lodge earns Green Lodging Michigan Steward certification**

<http://www.khardomahlodge.com/>

### **City of Flint and Swedish Biogas International will produce biogas from waste**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2008/05/city\\_of\\_flint\\_and\\_swedish\\_comp.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2008/05/city_of_flint_and_swedish_comp.html)

### **Beer will power cars for the Democratic National Convention in Denver in August**

<http://www.csrwire.com/News/12154.html>

### **Low-Power microchip developed at the University of Michigan**

<http://www.ns.umich.edu/htdocs/releases/story.php?id=6610>

### **Grand Rapids Art Museum LEED gold certified**

<http://www.jetsongreen.com/2008/01/grand-rapids-ar.html>

### **Country Inn & Suites earns Green Lodging Michigan Steward**

<http://www.countryinns.com/hotels/milansin>

### **International Accelerator Will Probe 21st-Century Particle Physics**

<http://www.uslhq.us/>

### **Michigan Interfaith Power & Light introduces Self Assessment tools**

[www.mipl.org/assessment.html](http://www.mipl.org/assessment.html)

July 10, 2008





# Environmental Tidbits

**Trees in the Greenhouse: Why Climate Change is Transforming the Forest Products Business**

[http://pdf.wri.org/trees\\_in\\_the\\_greenhouse.pdf](http://pdf.wri.org/trees_in_the_greenhouse.pdf)

## Recycling

**West Coast Webinars on Climate Change, Waste Prevention, Recovery and Disposal**

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/ECOCOMM.NSF/Programs/wcf>

## Water Quality & Conservation

**Governor Granholm Signs Historic Great Lakes Compact**

<http://www.cglg.org/>

**Steelcase to discuss water management**

[http://www.greenpowerconferences.com/corporateclimateresponse/ccr\\_news\\_steelcase.html](http://www.greenpowerconferences.com/corporateclimateresponse/ccr_news_steelcase.html)

**P2 Loan Project highlighted on WZZM TV**

[http://www.wzzm13.com/news/news\\_story.aspx?storyid=94571&catid=14](http://www.wzzm13.com/news/news_story.aspx?storyid=94571&catid=14)

**Michigan Coastal News**

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ess-clm-mcn-summer08\\_240717\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ess-clm-mcn-summer08_240717_7.pdf)

## Training/Workshop/Conference Opportunities

**27<sup>th</sup> Annual International Submerged Lands Management Conference**

<http://www.submergedlands2008.com/>

**Wind & Transmission 101 Workshop**

<http://midwestern08.windworkshops.org/>

**Annual Meeting of the Great Lakes Commission, Oct. 6-7 in Quebec City**

<http://www.glc.org/meeting/>

## Feedback

If you have not done so, please take a few moments to complete this short evaluation, thanks.

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=9IkHXUF9iifL6NjXBRHNag\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=9IkHXUF9iifL6NjXBRHNag_3d_3d)

July 10, 2008

